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FROM: TRIPOLI

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 212, NOVEMBER 16

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/FBC/AM

REVIEWED BY J.M. Raji DATE May 6, 1982

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 212, CAIRO 47, PRIORITY LONDON 37, PARIS 31, BENGHAZI 47

PARIS PASS AMBASSADOR TAPPIN, KNIGHT AND WALLNER

TARABLUS AL-GHARB RPT TARABLUS AL-GHARB CARRIES IN BOX ON FRONT PAGE UNDER HEADLINE "A NEW STEP FORWARD FOR THE LIBYAN ARMY, BRITISH AND AMERICAN ARMORED CARS AND GUNS FOR THE INFANT ARMY" FOLLOWING REPORT,

"HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRIME MINISTER LAST EVENING RECEIVED IN HIS OFFICE THE AMBASSADOR OF GREAT BRITAIN AND THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY WHO SPENT SOME TIME WITH HIM. THE PRIME MINISTER THEN SENT FOR THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE WITH WHOM HE MET FOR A TIME.

"HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCED TO OUR REPRESENTATIVE THAT THE AMBASSADOR OF BRITAIN AND THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY HAD INFORMED HIM THAT THEIR TWO GOVERNMENTS HAD ACCEDED TO THE REQUEST OF THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT AND HAD DECIDED TO THE REQUEST OF THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT AND ~~HAD DECIDED~~ TO MAKE A GIFT TO THE LIBYAN ARMY CONSISTING OF EQUIPMENT FOR A COMPLETELY ARMORED CAR SQUADRON AS A FIRST INSTALLMENT. THE PREMIER ADDED THAT THE ARMORED CARS WILL ARRIVE IN TRIPOLI AT THE END OF NEXT MONTH.

"OUR REPRESENTATIVE ASKED THE PRIME MINISTER, 'IS THE DENISION OF THE TWO SISTER COUNTRIES BOUND BY ANY STRINGS?'

"HIS EXCELLENCY REPLIED THAT THERE ARE NO RPT NO STRINGS OF ANY

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KIND. THE PREMIER WENT ON TO SAY, 'THIS IS A NEW INDICATION OF THE CLOSE TIES WHICH CONNECT LIBYA TO BOTH BRITAIN AND AMERICA.' WE HAVE LEARNED THAT THE EQUIPMENT GIVEN TO LIBYA INCLUDES BRITISH AND AMERICAN ARMORED CARS, SUPPORTING VEHICLES WITH THEIR COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND ALSO MANY MEDIUM SIZE GUNS WITH THE NECESSARY AMMUNITION."

NES

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